



Prospectus

Thank you for your interest in Rosemont House Montessori

A child's early experiences help to form the foundations for their relationship with the world. Joyful early experiences help the child to see beauty in the world. It is with this in mind that we have created an environment for children that is truly beautiful inside and out.

As you walk through the rose-filled gardens and step through the front door you will encounter a magnificent foyer with a grand, sweeping staircase. Authentic Victorian-era antiques pepper the interior landscape, fitted with furnishings crafted with love and care. This represents our belief that children deserve beauty, authenticity and quality.

Hiding behind the grand manor is an adventure play space that seems to have stepped right out of a child's dreams! From mud pits to a watercourse, sand play to secret gardens, vegetable gardens to sensory paths, our outdoor natural play space is something that children will remember throughout their lives.

We hope this Prospectus will provide you with an insight into how Rosemont House Montessori can provide your child with a wonderful early childhood experience. We look forward to further contact with you, and welcoming you into our community in the future.



Location

Rosemont House Montessori is located at **59 Kensington Road, Norwood**. It is in close proximity to all major traffic routes leading into the city (Magill Rd, Norwood Pde, Kensington Rd, Fullarton Rd).

Operating Hours

Rosemont House Montessori offers education and care for children from **6 months to 6 years** from **8:30am to 5:30pm on Monday to Friday** for 50 weeks each year (closing for 2 weeks over the Christmas period). A placement must be paid for as a continuous booking for 50 weeks of the year (unless notice to withdraw is given) irrespective of whether the child is absent for any of the operational days. The centre is closed on Public Holidays however fees still apply. We have a minimum attendance of 2 days per week to ensure that children experience consistency, build secure attachments and feel a strong sense of belonging.

Licensing

The centre is licensed by the Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board of South Australia to enrol children below school age. **Rosemont House Montessori** is registered as an 'approved provider' for the purposes of enabling families to receive Commonwealth Child Care Subsidy (CCS).

The Montessori Experience

The Montessori method is an educational pedagogy based on supporting the innate needs of the child in order to encourage the child's natural love of learning and to promote the child's healthy and holistic development. The method was devised by Dr Maria Montessori, although Dr Montessori credited the *children* as the true creators of the method - "I have studied the child, I have taken what the child has shown me and I have expressed it - that is what we call the Montessori method". The first Montessori classrooms were in Italy in 1907. Since that time the Montessori method has retained its relevance and proven its value. Today there are approximately 22,000 Montessori schools world wide in over 110 countries.

The Montessori philosophy is deeply embedded in all aspects of our centre. The Montessori curriculum provides the philosophy and practices of our learning program and builds upon the harmonious foundations of the National Early Years Learning Framework. Our Montessori program inter-relates with every moment, experience and interaction of the children, our teaching team and our families. The Montessori materials and lessons provide sequential learning experiences in all aspects of this rich and balanced curriculum. A true Montessori program like ours requires skilled and trained teachers who can recognise each child's unfolding pattern of readiness and translate that to the introduction of new learning challenges.

A Montessori classroom is an inspiring learning environment filled with wonderful resources that encourage independent exploration and discovery. Our Montessori teachers prepare the environment to meet the needs of the children. The wonderful and precise Montessori materials are always available for the children to practice their newly acquired skills and extend their knowledge. Children can interact intelligently with their surroundings and become engaged in their own learning at their own individual level of interest and in their own time.

Children in a Montessori program are exposed to sequential learning in all the core curriculum areas of Literacy, Numeracy, Practical Life Skills, Sensorial exploration, Science and Cultural studies. The Montessori materials have been specifically designed to provide a wonderful foundation of knowledge upon which each child can progress according to their readiness and interest.

The Montessori program is a continuum of development during a child's most formative early years. Optimum learning takes place when a child is able to progress through the consecutive stages of our early learning environment where learning continues until the child is ready for Primary School. Children who graduate from our Montessori environment will have acquired all of the necessary skills to confidently and competently begin the next part of their school life. Most importantly, we will have prepared your child with a love for learning and a healthy curiosity about the world.

Our SA Montessori Relationship

Rosemont House Montessori is a family-owned service, managed by SA Montessori. The owners of Rosemont House Montessori, Barbara Langford, Jessica Langford and Pam Francescangeli, have developed their vision of an inimitable ‘SA Montessori’ experience, available in a new unique model that incorporates care for infants and toddlers.

Rosemont House Montessori draws on a 30-year history of expertise and experience within the SA Montessori Group of centres. There are seven SA Montessori centres in Adelaide. *Jescott Montessori Pre-school* was the first centre founded in 1989 by Barbara Langford. Barbara began Jescott to provide a Montessori education for her daughter and this family focus remains central to our learning community today.

The following centres are now successfully established and united as SA Montessori centres:

- *Jescott Montessori Preschool* at Magill
- *Cedars Montessori Preschool* at Saint Spyridon College, Unley
- *Chancery Lane Montessori Preschool* at St Aloysius College, Adelaide
- *Rosemont House Montessori* at Norwood
- *Lilliput Village Montessori* at Maylands
- *Little Oxford Montessori* at Unley and
- *Echoes Montessori* at Modbury

Each of these centres display an **SA Montessori** branding logo. This logo indicates that the Centre has an acknowledged Montessori program with the highest standard of management, staffing and professional expertise.

Since the introduction of the National Quality Framework in 2012, all early learning and care services across Australia must be assessed against a set of national standards to determine the quality of the centre. There are 4 rating levels with the highest being “Exceeding the National Quality Standards”. **We are proud that *Rosemont House Montessori Preschool*, together with *all* of our SA Montessori centres, has achieved the rating of “Exceeding the National Quality Standards”.**

General Information

Rosemont House Montessori is a stunning facility for children. The building has been carefully updated but retains its heritage character. Each classroom is filled with natural light from the large windows that provide a view to the surrounding rose gardens. The children's furniture is made from timber and polished wood and the classrooms are resourced with beautifully crafted materials.

The children's kitchen provides a beautiful home-like environment . Each day the children can safely bake, prepare fruit platters and assist in preparing the afternoon snacks. The children help to set the dining room in readiness for lunch, and following their meal, they tidy the room and stack the dishwasher.

The outdoor play area has been thoughtfully developed to provide an engaging natural environment. Trees provide shade over the rockery and watercourse. Garden swings and sculptures are placed around the garden area creating quiet sitting spaces. Vegetable and flowerbeds allow the children to grow and harvest food for the kitchen. Large moss rocks border a mud kitchen and sand pit area and invite safe climbing and imaginative play. Rose gardens and fruit trees add to the special and unique outdoor space for children.

On-site car parking is provided at the rear of the building for up to 17 cars. There is a one-way entry and exit loop which provides safe traffic movement to and from Sydenham Road. Parents can safely park each day and walk their children through the garden to the front entry door of the building. A bus stop is located just a few metres down Kensington Road.

Food - nutritional snack food is provided mid morning and mid afternoon. **Lunch food is not provided** by the centre as it is our experience that children most often prefer food prepared from home which caters to the individual and cultural preference of their family. **Food to be consumed for lunch is therefore provided by each child's parents.** (Baby food will be discussed separately with parents). Children's lunchboxes are stored in fridges until required.

Sleep and Rest - Some children require a sleep during the day. In general we encourage the children to acknowledge their own need for a rest or a sleep and we allow children to do so whenever they are ready. Babies under 12 months old are provided with cots, and those over 12 months old use safe floor beds. Toddlers and Pre-schoolers use individual stretcher beds. With the exception of the babies, each child who may require a sleep is required to have a set of linen that is purchased at enrolment and stored for use at the centre.

Clothing - Rosemont House children wear a safe and practical uniform which will offer them the freedom of movement they require during the day, the ability to implement independent dressing skills and the ability to successfully manage their own toileting. The uniform is an easy wash and wear outfit and we hope the children will feel a sense of pride wearing something that identifies them as belonging to our Rosemont community of families.

Our Programs

Rosemont House provides two separate programs, each with their own unique living space:

The 'Montessori From The Start' Program is designed for the needs of the Infant & Toddler community, being children from 6 months to 3 years. This program is housed in an area that has been safely and carefully furnished to cater to children's growing developmental needs. The program has been developed to provide the youngest members of our community with a level of care, attention and personalisation that reflects the dynamics of a home environment as closely as possible. Our approach is informed by the latest research in infant development and neuroscience and incorporates world-renowned practices in care and education. Whilst it is not a pre-requisite to the Preschool Program, it is the intention that the 'Montessori From The Start' Program will help provide the first steps along a child's ongoing Montessori journey. We aim to guide and assist our youngest children to build confidence, enabling them to transition smoothly into the Montessori Pre-school program.

The Montessori Pre-school Program is for children aged 3 years (or slightly younger if assessed as ready) up to school age. The Pre-school community enjoys a separate learning area that includes access to the children's kitchen. A more formal program of learning is introduced during the pre-school years as children progress through the Montessori curriculum, an enriched program for learning and exploration. This is an inimitable age with an unparalleled potential for learning. Any parent of a pre-school child knows that this is an age of questioning, exploring and discovering. It takes a special program to keep up with this intrinsic energy, and that is exactly what we offer. Children work at their own pace to discover their place in the world. Our Preschool Montessori program is delivered by qualified Early Childhood trained teachers and Childcare Professionals. Our aim is not only to provide your child with the foundation skills for all future learning but also to ensure that we create happy childhood memories of feeling valued and loved.

These two programs are detailed further in the following pages.

The Infant and Toddler Community: “Montessori From The Start”

Montessori From The Start is “childcare” for babies and toddlers - but not as you might know it. When most people think of “childcare” for babies and toddlers they picture challenging environments filled with crying children, chaotic mess, endless check-lists and impersonal assembly-line nappy changes. Many childcare professionals - and parents - mistakenly believe that these challenges of childcare are an inherent part of the process. That common model is so pervasive that many people find it difficult to imagine childcare occurring in any other way – but there *is* another way and you will find it at Montessori From The Start. Our model is founded on a deep respect for the *needs and rights of the youngest members of our world*. Dr. Maria Montessori said “the greatness of the human personality begins at the *hour of birth*”. This reverence for the baby is what informs all aspects of our care community. We do not incorporate any feature, routine or element unless it is in the best interest of the child.

We make no distinction between our ‘curriculum’ and our ‘routines’. Just as we use the term ‘*educarers*’ to highlight the symbiosis between ‘education’ and ‘care’, we must also highlight the fact that the *curriculum is the routine and the routine is the curriculum*.

Most childcare centres treat ‘curriculum’ and ‘routine’ as two separate entities. For example, they may view the ‘curriculum’ as the stacking toys and books placed in the classroom and view the ‘routine’ as the nappy-changing and feeding that must be ticked off the checklist. This distinction inevitably has two unintended results; it creates an *implied hierarchy* and it leads to *assembly-line attitudes*. The sense of implied hierarchy manifests when childcare workers believe that ‘routines’, such as nappy changing, must be rushed through in order to get to the ‘more important’ curriculum experiences. This tends to subtly promote the assembly-line mentality, when every child is changed one-by-one at a pre-determined set time so that it can be done ‘as quickly as possible’. The child experiences these rushed routines as impersonal at best and uncomfortable at worst.

It is our belief that every element of the routine is an important part of the curriculum, and the following of the curriculum forms a part of our natural daily routines and rhythms. When a baby has a wet nappy, we respond to that individual’s need and while we assist with applying a dry nappy we will engage in communication, eye-contact and interaction that promotes healthy development. There is no “nappy change time”, it is simply that at certain points during the day a child’s activity will be *changing my nappy*. The same principle applies to food preparation and meals, changing clothes and other practical elements of the ‘routine’. Practical and necessary daily routines provide opportunities for meaningful learning and development.

We also carefully prepare the environment with purposeful materials and present specific experiences. These materials and presentations are sourced from the Montessori curriculum and are designed to support the child’s innate needs. For babies and toddlers the materials focus on promoting movement, coordination, communication, sensory awareness and blossoming independence.

The Pre-school Program

The Three-Year Montessori Pre-school Curriculum

The Montessori Pre-school program is a continuum of learning which begins when a child is seeking more formal interactive learning with the educators. This usually occurs around the age of 2.5-3 years. When children enter the Pre-school program, they begin a cycle of learning that is defined as the Montessori Curriculum. This curriculum is offered over a 3 year period with various learning experiences that lead a child to new levels of understanding. The teaching materials are sequential and build skills to match each child's individual pattern of development. The program can be likened to a jigsaw puzzle with various pieces of the puzzle representing each separate learning experience the child is exposed to throughout their three-year program. In the year prior to a child starting school, the last pieces of the puzzle come together as the final challenges of the Montessori equipment are introduced to the child. The picture would not be complete without the previous pieces of the puzzle forming the foundation and so it is with the Montessori resources that continue to challenge and build upon previous levels of achievement.

While optimum learning takes place when a child has progressed through the full 3 year learning cycle prior to starting Primary School, we also recognise that it is not always possible for every child to do so. We know that every child who spends time at our pre-school will gain very valuable and unique learning experiences irrespective of the length of time the child remains in the centre. We are confident of providing a positive outcome for all children and that is why we sometimes accept children in to our pre-school programs who are not able to commit to the full 3 year program.

Children in our Montessori Pre-school program are exposed to sequential learning in all of the core curriculum areas of **Literacy, Numeracy, Practical Life Skills, Sensorial exploration, Science and Cultural studies**. The Montessori materials have been specifically designed to provide a wonderful foundation of knowledge upon which each child can progress according to their readiness and interest.

Rosemont House Montessori provides high quality programs for every child. In order to achieve this we employ qualified educators who can offer the expertise, experience and the educational pedagogy to nurture the important developmental stages of a child's early years. We carefully select our staff with an aim to ensure that we have a team of educators who are passionate and committed to the care of children. Our teachers have a range of experience and qualifications that may include a combination of the following; **Bachelor of Early Childhood Education, Montessori Teaching Diploma, Montessori Advanced Certificate, or Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care**. We understand how important it is for children to have primary care-givers in their life who provide excellent role modeling, quality use of spoken language, gentle and consistent guidance, and most importantly, genuine love and respect.

2022/2023 Fee Schedule

<p>Waiting List Application</p>	<p>This fee must accompany the <i>Waiting List Application form</i>. The application fee is for administration purposes and is not refundable. If you have applied to the Waiting List at one of the other SA Montessori centres, or if you have another child already registered to our Rosemont Waiting List, you are eligible for a discounted Waiting List Fee of \$25.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$75 <i>(non-refundable)</i></p>
<p>Enrolment Registration</p>	<p>Following an <i>Offer of Placement</i> parents must secure the position with a non-refundable administrative fee.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$145 <i>(non-refundable)</i></p>
<p>Bond</p>	<p>It is a requirement of enrolment that parents notify Rosemont House Montessori in writing with 4 weeks advance notice when withdrawing their child from the centre, or cancelling days of enrolment. The notice period cannot include the time that the centre is closed. Once notice of departure has been given, the bond will be refunded to parents following full payment of any outstanding fees due up to the last day of attendance.</p> <p>Parents who supply less than the required 4 week's notice for a departure will still be required to pay the equivalent total fees of that 4 week notice period regardless of their child's attendance during this time. The bond may be forfeited and used towards a portion of this fee payment. As Centrelink generally does not pay entitlements if a child is absent on their formalised last day, <i>or any absences immediately surrounding that last day</i>, full fees (with no Child Care Subsidy applied) may need to be charged for that period of time, where applicable.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>The bond is calculated prior to any Child Care Subsidy application. It is the equivalent of:</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 weeks gross fees <i>(refundable if all conditions met)</i></p>
<p>Montessori From the Start and Preschool Program Daily Attendance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees are structured according to age group to reflect the differing costs associated with these ages, including (but not limited to) the increased number of educators required to satisfy the legal educator-to-child ratios for younger children. • The centre programs operate between 8.30am to 5:30 daily. Minimum attendance at Rosemont House Montessori is 2 days a week but children can attend up to 5 days a week. Fees are calculated as a full day of attendance irrespective of whether a child utilizes all of the available daily hours. Sessions cannot be made up if not attended. • Fees apply for 50 weeks of the year for all days booked including public holidays and sick days. Fees are payable at the conclusion of each week of attendance and are automatically deducted by direct withdrawal from a nominated bank account using the centre 'Debitsuccess' payment system. Participation in the DebitSuccess system is a condition of enrolment. • If the account is outstanding beyond the due date, a late fee of \$20 may be applied. If accounts are outstanding after two weeks, the placement may be forfeited. Debt collection procedures may be initiated on any outstanding fees. 	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Under 3 years:</i> \$135 per day</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Over 3 years:</i> \$120 per day</p>

Government Child Care Subsidy (CCS)

The **Child Care Subsidy (CCS)** provides assistance to help families with the cost of child care.

If you are eligible to receive the Child Care Subsidy (CCS), your entitlements will be paid **directly to the service** your child is attending. The service will then deduct CCS from your child's regular fees, leaving you with only a gap to pay for your child's enrolment.

To be eligible to receive Child Care Subsidy for a child, the child must meet up-to-date immunisation requirements, and the individual, or their partner, must meet residency requirements.

How much will I receive?

The amount of Child Care Subsidy you can get depends on your circumstances. Three things determine a family's level of CCS:

1. A family's annual adjusted **taxable income** will determine the percentage of subsidy they are eligible for,
2. An **activity test** will determine how many hours of subsidised care families can access, up to a maximum of 100 per fortnight, and
3. The **type of child care service** will determine the hourly rate cap.

We encourage parents to visit Service Australia's '**Payment and Service Finder**' to estimate how much Child Care Subsidy you may get.

Our Waiting List

Parents wanting their child to join the centre must apply to the Waiting List. Our centre is licensed for a maximum number of children each day. Once the centre is filled at the beginning of each year, only a small number of vacancies arise throughout the year. When a vacancy does arise it is prioritized as follows:

- 1) It is initially offered to any child currently attending our pre-school who may have requested an increase in days or a change from an existing placement.
- 2) If we cannot place the position internally, we then offer the opportunity to siblings of our current attendees
- 3) Finally, the vacancy is then offered to children from our Waiting List.

This means that only a limited number of places become available to new families from the Waiting List. At the end of each year we usually have a number of pre-school children moving on to Primary School. Therefore, this is the time when we are *most* likely to be able to take new children from the Waiting List.

Children on the Waiting List who have not been successful in gaining a placement at their requested time will remain on the list (unless otherwise advised by their caregiver) for future consideration as vacancies arise.

Our Waiting List is run fairly and professionally. Due to the restrictions on our licensed capacity, the high demand for placements, and the limited vacancies that arise, we can never *guarantee* any child a placement.

All prospective families who visit our centre are given an honest appraisal of their chances of gaining a placement, if requested. Sometimes this can mean waiting for an extended period of time for a placement to become available.

We are told we are worth waiting for - we hope you agree.

How to Enrol at Rosemont House Montessori

This information package contains a **Waiting List Application Form**. If you would like to register your child to be considered for placement you must complete and return this form. A Waiting List Application does not guarantee a placement at the centre although every effort is made to accommodate your request. Placements are offered according to our enrolment policy and influenced by available vacancies.

The process of enrolment is as follows:

- 1) Email your completed Waiting List Application Form to rosemont@samontessori.com.au. Your application must be accompanied by a \$75 processing fee and a copy of your child's Medicare immunization records, or records from the Australian Standard Vaccination Program.
- 2) Your child's details will be entered onto the Waiting List Register in the dated chronological order that we receive the forms. You will receive correspondence confirming your registration to the Waiting List Register with a receipt.
- 3) When a vacancy occurs that matches your request for enrolment, and you have reached the next position in line on the waiting list, an Offer of Placement Enrolment Pack will be forwarded to you including the relevant paperwork. Rosemont House Montessori allocates placements according to strict enrolment procedures. The Offer of Placement will only be upheld for a short period of time as indicated on your paperwork. The Offer of Placement will contain an invoice for Commencement Fees, incorporating an Enrolment Fee and a Bond (representative of two week's worth of fees). You will also receive a Parent Handbook for your information.
- 4) Your placement will be confirmed upon receipt of your completed paperwork and Commencement Fees and you will receive a receipt for your fees. Along with this confirmation, your child will be invited to an Orientation to take place prior to the starting date. The orientation allows parents and children to become familiar with their classroom environment, meet the teaching team, and build confidence with the routines of the centres.



SA MONTESSORI

quality early childhood education and care

SA Montessori Pre-schools Immunisation Policy

Statement

SA Montessori Pre-schools aim to uphold its obligation under the laws of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 Division 2, Section 19, Subsection 3 (A) to provide a safe and healthy environment for employees, children and visitors attending the centres.

Rationale

SA Montessori Pre-school Centres will not enrol children without approved records that they are 'up to date' according to the Australian Immunisation Register, as per the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule.

Procedures

- Children who are not immunised may place themselves and other members of the centre at risk through the possible introduction of an infectious disease. SA Montessori Pre-schools therefore applies the following policy to minimise the risk of communicable disease by attempting to ensure that all children enrolled at its centres are immunised. Homeopathic vaccination is not accepted.
- The Immunisation policy is effective from 1st July 2003.
- Parents will need to provide an approved immunisation record from the Australian Immunisation Register (accessible via Medicare) as evidence of the child's 'up to date' immunisation status.
- A current approved immunisation record needs to be supplied:
 - *at the time of the child's enrolment;*
 - *after the child turns 7 months of age but before the child turns 9 months of age;*
 - *after the child turns 13 months of age but before the child turns 15 months of age;*
 - *after the child turns 19 months of age but before the child turns 21 months of age;*
 - *after the child turns 4 years and 2 months of age but before the child turns 4 years and 8 months of age.*
- Where a child is on an 'approved catch up schedule', enrolment is not guaranteed until they are 'up to date'. Families may lodge a request that will be considered by centre owners to commence enrolment during the 'approved catch up schedule' depending on the timeframe and circumstances.
- Once enrolled, if a child does not remain up to date with the immunisation program for any reason (including, but not limited to, health exemption or conscientious objection), parents will be required to remove their child from the service. The forfeiture of enrolment may be effective immediately and the centre is not required to provide the parents with a notice period.
- The services will make available to families and staff information on immunisation schedules and clinics. Where possible and applicable, information will be made available in languages other than English.
- Where appropriate the centre will invite health care professionals to address parents and staff on immunisation and health matters

Linkage to other policies

Confidentiality Policy

Sourcing

Australian Immunisation Handbook 10th Edition

National Health and Medical Research Council

Work Health & Safety Act 2012

SA Health